PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's c	r agent's file referer	nce							
OP040006			FOR FURTHER	ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416				
International application No.			International filing of	late (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)				
PCT/JP2005/004190			10.03.200	05	16.03.2004				
G06F1		on (IPC) or natio	onal classification and	I IPC					
Applicant TURBO	DATA LAB	ORATORI	ES INC.						
 This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 									
	s REPORT consists	_			g this cover sheet.				
		mpanied by AN	NEXES, comprising	:					
a.				ureau) a total of 12	sheets, as follows:				
	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).								
sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.									
b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))									
related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).									
4. Thi:	report contains ind	lications relatin	g to the following ite	ms:					
\boxtimes	Box No. I	Basis of the r	eport						
Ļ	Box No. II	Priority							
	Box No. III	Non-establish	nment of opinion with	regard to novelty, invent	ive step and industrial applicability				
	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention								
	Box No. V	Reasoned star citations and	tement under Article explanations support	35(2) with regard to nove ing such statement	lty, inventive step or industrial applicability:				
	Box No. VI Certain documents cited								
	Box No. VII	Certain defec	ts in the international	application					
	Box No. VIII	Certain obser	vations on the interna	ational application					
				Date of completion of th	is report				
				,	•				
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP				Authorized officer					
Facsimile No.				Telephone No.					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/004190

Box	No.	!	Basis of the report					
1.	Wit indi	h regard cated un	to the language, this report is based on the internation der this item.	nal application in the language in	which it was filed, unless otherwise			
		This re which	port is based on translations from the original langua is the language of a translation furnished for the purp	ge into the following language				
			nternational search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))					
		r	publication of the international application (Rule 12.4))				
		L i	nternational preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/	or 55.3)				
2.	rece	h regard iving Off report):	to the elements of the international application, this fice in response to an invitation under Article 14 are	report is based on (replacement e referred to in this report as "c	sheets which have been furnished to the originally filed" and are not annexed to			
		the inte	rnational application as originally filed/furnished					
	\triangle	the des	cription:					
		pages	1-43		as originally filed/furnished			
		pages*		received by this Authority on				
	.	pages*		received by this Authority on				
	\boxtimes	the clai	ms:					
		nos.	13-19,30-36,47-53		as originally filed/furnished			
		nos.*	2,7,9,11,12,20,24,26,28,29,37,41,	as amended (togethe	r with any statement) under Article 19			
		nos.*	43,45,46,54	received by this Authority on	01.06.2005			
		nos.*		received by this Authority on				
	\boxtimes	the drav	vings:					
		sheets	fig. 1-50		as originally filed/furnished			
		sheets*		received by this Authority on	-			
		sheets*						
		a seque	nce listing and/or any related table(s) – see Suppleme	ntal Box Relating to Sequence L	isting.			
3.	\boxtimes	The am	endments have resulted in the cancellation of:					
		th	e description, pages					
		∇A	e claims, nos1,3-6,8,10,21-23,25,27,3					
			the drawings, sheets/figs					
			ny table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):					
4.		This rep	port has been established as if (some of) the amendment been considered to go beyond the disclosure as file	nents annexed to this report and	listed below had not been made, since tal Box (Rule 70.2(c)).			
			e description, pages		, , , ,			
			e claims, nos.					
			e drawings, sheets/figs					
			e sequence listing (specify):					
		[]						
*	If ite		es, some or all of those sheets may be marked "super					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
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Box	No. V Reasoned statement citations and explain	nt under An mations su	ticle 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; oporting such statement	
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	13-19, 30-36, 47-53	YES
		Claims	2, 7, 9, 11, 12, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29, 37, 41, 43, 45, 46, 54	NO
	Inventive step (IS)			YES
		Claims	2, 7, 9, 11-20, 24, 26, 28-37, 41, 43, 45-54	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	2, 7, 9, 11-20, 24, 26, 28-37, 41, 43, 45-54	YES
		Claims		NO

- 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)
 - Document 1: R. SEDGEWICK, as translated by Kohei NOSHITA et al., Algorithm, Vol. 1 = Kiso/Seiretsu, first edition, Kindai Kagaku Sha, 1990, pages 39 to 55
 - Document 2: JP 10-240741 A (Nippon Telegraph And Telephone Corp.), 11 September 1998, paragraphs [0001] to [0006] and fig. 3 to 5

The inventions set forth in claims 2, 9, 12, 20, 26, 29, 37, 43, 46 and 54 are presented in document 1 (pages 39 to 55) and document 2 (paragraphs [0001] to [0006]) cited in the international search report; therefore, the inventions in question lack novelty and do not involve an inventive step.

Document 1 (in particular, refer to page 48 and fig. 4.6) and document 2 (in particular, refer to paragraph [0006] and fig. 5) present techniques wherein each non-root node is associated with the parent node of said non-root node. Furthermore, document 1 (in particular, refer to fig. 4.12) and document 2 (in particular, refer to fig. 5) present search techniques wherein the nodes in the same generation are given priority over the child nodes.

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

The inventions set forth in claims 7, 11, 24, 28, 41 and 45 lack novelty in the light of document 1, and do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2. Document 1 (in particular, refer to fig. 4.9) presents a search technique wherein the child nodes are given priority over the nodes in the same generation.

The inventions set forth in claims 13, 14, 30, 31, 47 and 48 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2 cited in the international search report. Documents 1 and 2 do not mention selecting either a depth-first mode or a breadth-first mode. However, techniques for selecting a mode from among a plurality of modes are well known, and thus it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to apply such a technique.

The inventions set forth in claims 15 to 19, 32 to 36 and 49 to 53 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2 cited in the international search report. Documents 1 and 2 do not disclose a method for converting the form of the tree structure. However, techniques for converting the form of a tree structure are well known, and thus it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to apply such a technique.